



city of
greenville

News Release

LADYBIRD RECUPERATING AFTER POSSIBLE COLD-RELATED ILLNESS

Greenville, S.C. - Ladybird, one of the Greenville Zoo's African elephants, may be off exhibit as she undergoes treatment and close observation for a medical condition. Ladybird experienced an episode of colic or abdominal pain, which can be fairly common with a weather change. As a result, she has been receiving supportive care, including oral fluids and high fiber foods.

"Ladybird has shown signs of improvement today, she is bright, alert and responding well to her keepers," said Dr. Heather Miller, Greenville Zoo Deputy Administrator for Animal Health. "Tests show that she is also staying hydrated, but we will be watching her condition very closely."

Greenville Zoo staff will continue to monitor her hydration status and her progress over the next week and are working with medical colleagues from Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoos, including the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, S.C. and Birmingham Zoo in Alabama.

"We have been amazed at the overwhelming support received from local resources, including veterinarians, other AZA accredited zoos and City departments who are all working toward a single goal of ensuring Ladybird has the best care possible," said Greenville Zoo Director Jeff Bullock. "Our dedicated team will continue to work together to make sure Ladybird's medical and psychological needs are met during her illness."

Ladybird, who is almost 44 years old, is considered elderly with the median life expectancy of African elephants at 37.9 years. She arrived in Greenville from Lion Country Safari Wildlife Park in Loxahatchee, FL in 2006. Joy, the Greenville Zoo's other female African elephant, will remain on exhibit.

About the Greenville Zoo

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA), the Greenville Zoo is rated one of the best tourist attractions in South Carolina, attracting over 270,000 people annually. Operated by the City of Greenville, the 14-acre facility features wildlife from around the world, including elephants,

giraffes, monkeys and giant tortoises. Visitors can also enjoy one of the zoo's most popular exhibits, the Reptile Building, which is home to a variety of lizards, frogs, turtles and snakes.

The Greenville Zoo is open seven days a week, except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Zoo entry ticket sales close at 4:15 p.m. Admission to the Greenville Zoo is \$8.75 for adults and \$5.50 for children (ages 3-15 years old). For more information about the Greenville Zoo, visit www.greenvillezoo.com or follow the zoo on Facebook at facebook.com/greenvillezoo.

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